recently entrusted to State PWD vide Notification dated 8th August, 2001. No work has been sanctioned so far on this NH.

(c) The development and maintenance of the National Highway is a continuing process and no target date can be indicated.

Disbursement of Credit to SSI by Italy

1958. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Italian Government is disbursing credit to promote SSI and medium units in India.

(b) if so, the amount of funds being given as credit;

(c) the sectors which are being benefited through this credit;

(d) the terms and conditions of this credit facility; and

(e) how many units have applied for this credit and the criteria for identifying the units for getting this credit facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Italian Government has made available a soft loan of Italian Lira 10 billion (Rs. 20.00 crores approx.) by extending a Line of Credit to the National Small Industries Corporation Limited.

(c) This credit is available for acquisition of Italian machinery and services related to Leather, Electronics, Plastics, Mechanical, Automobile Components, Textile, Food Processing and Packaging, Marble and Granite Processing & Extraction sectors.

(d) The terms and conditions for availing this credit facility are given in the Statement *(see* below).

(e) Till date seven units have approached NSIC for availing assistance. Units with fixed investment of US $ 0.03 to 1.00 million are eligible for getting this credit facility.

Statement

Terms & Conditions for availing Italian Credit Line facility

i. Eligibility:

Any enterprise with fixed investment in the order of US $ 0.03 to 1.0 million. The enterprise should be equipped or is willing to equip its plant in the short term with a quality system conforming to international standard ISO-9000. For this purpose only the original value of the fixed assets installed or proposed to be installed shall be taken into account. Value of single assistance in the selected sectors (referred to a single beneficiary) shall be higher than 50 million Italian Liras (equivalent Rs. 10.00 lakhs approx.). In case of assistance for projects other than the selected sectors the value of every single contract shall be higher than 300 million Italian Liras (Rs. 60.00 lakhs approx.)

In order to enlarge the number of potential beneficiaries an upper limit of Italian Lira 2.5 billion (equivalent to Rs. 5.00 crores approx.) for a single contract has been set.

ii. Application Fee:

The application fee (non refundable) is Rs. 1000/-payable by Account Payee Bank Draft in favour of 'NSIC LIMITED'

iii. Repayment:

The period of repayment is 7 years in 28 quarterly installments with gestation period of 18 months.

iv. Rate of Interest:

The rate of interest is 9% p.a.

v. Earnest money & service charges:

The earnest money is 15% of the cost of machine and service charges are 2% of the cost of machine.

vi. Payment to supplier:

Under the terms of Credit Line, a letter of credit is not required to be opened in favour of the Italian Suppliers. On approval of the project proposal by the Italian Authorities the supplier shall be intimated that funds have been earmarked which would be released on supply of machine as per the terms agreed between the Indian buyer and the Italian supplier.

vii COLLATERAL SECURITY:

1. For units seeking assistance under Italian credit Line and Tannery modernisation scheme of Govt, of India.
   * In addition to the earnest money of 15% the unit shall pay a further fixed deposit of 15% of the cost of machinery with NSIC before delivery of the machine.
   * The Government's contribution by way of capital subsidy under tannery modernisation scheme shall also be made available to NSIC.
   * The machine purchased under the credit line shall be mortgaged with NSIC.
2. *For units seeking assistance under Italian Credit & not covered under Tannery modernisation scheme of Govt, of India.*
   * In addition to the earnest money of 15% the unit shall pay a further fixed deposit of 25% of the cost of machine with NSIC before delivery of the machine.
   * For units not able to mobilise the additional 25% for further fixed deposit, shall be required to provide immovable property as security at least equal to 50% of the value of assistance after adjusting earnest money for machinery purchased.
   * The machine purchased under the credit line shall be mortgaged with NSIC.

viii. Additional terms:

* During the gestation period the unit shall have to pay interest in quarterly installments.

* In case of delay or default of instalments, overdue interest 2% above the normal rate will be charged on overdue for the period of default.

* Insurance shall be arranged by the unit with NSIC as the beneficiary.

* The earnest money at the prescribed rates shall be payable on the cost of the machine on sanction of the proposal.

Non-Filling of Posts Reserved for other Backward Classes

1959. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether representation of SCs, STs and OBCs in Group A and Group B categories of Services has not reached 49.5 per cent quota prescribed for them (15 per cent for SCs. 7.5 per cent for STs and 27 per cent for OBCs) in his Ministry;

(b) if so, the number of Class I and Class II catgegory of posts under all PSUs/autonomous organisations under his Ministry; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to (i) General (ii) SCs (iii) STs and (iv) OBCs working against them and their percentage as ascertained under para 5 DOPT OM No. 36012/2/ 96-Estt. (Res.) dated 2nd July, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The total number of filled up posts in Class I and Class II categories, representation of SC/ST/OBC/GEN